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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

VPA IMPLEMENTS NEW COMMAND SYSTEM

Hanoi TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN [PEOPLE'S ARMY REVIEW] in Vietnamese No 10, Oct 80
pp 38-45

[Article by Le Tat Thang: "Several Experiences in Implementing the One Person in Command System"]

[Text] The implementation of the one person in command system is a matter of major importance, one which represents a change in the command system within our army and marks an important stage of development in the organizational work of our people's armed forces.

The realities of the units that implemented this system previously confirm that the position of the party with regard to implementing the one person in command system within the army is correct and timely, is consistent with the development and growth of our country's revolution, of our army, meets the requirements of the political task and the military task of our party in the new stage and satisfies the pressing demands of the large combat task of our army in the cause of protecting the fatherland. The implementation of the one person in command system has had a marked and positive impact in many areas: the collective leadership by the party committee is strictly maintained; the responsibility of the commander and the effectiveness of command have been strengthened; the coordination among the various areas of work is tighter; tasks are completed with higher quality and so forth. Problems regarding the relationship between the commander and the party committee, the commander and the agency on the upper level, the commander and the party committee on his level, the commander and his deputy commanders, the commander and the staff, the political agency, the rear service agency and the technical agency, the commander and the mass organizations and the mass of cadres and soldiers within the unit and so forth have gradually been correctly resolved in accordance with the guideline of constantly increasing the effectiveness of the leadership organization, the command organization and the mass organization.

The results of the implementation of the one person in command system within the units that implemented this system first have provided us with useful experiences and made a practical contribution to the widespread and successful implementation of this system throughout the army.

1. The party committee, party members and cadres must have a thorough understanding of the objectives, requirements and contents of the one person in command system, there must be total unanimity among them and they must be determined to thoroughly implement this system.

To begin with, it must be realized that the implementation of the one person in command system within the army is designed to constantly strengthen the leadership role of the party committee collective and fully develop the responsibility of the commander to insure the development of leadership strength in conjunction with increasing the effectiveness of command, determinedly and promptly implementing the resolutions, directives and orders of the upper echelon and the resolutions of the party committee on one's level and so forth in order to successfully complete every task.

This is clearly a new stage of development and improvement in organization, one consistent with the political line and task, the military line and task and the military science and art of the party in the people's war to protect the fatherland, consistent with the guidelines and tasks of making our army a powerful, revolutionary people's army, an army that is increasingly regular-force and modern. These are the objective requirements of protecting our fatherland in the new stage. They are also a manifestation of the revolutionary and scientific nature of the organizational work of our armed forces today.

In the past, after the party committee issued a resolution, the group commander and unit commanders primarily served the function of commanding and managing troops in the areas of military affairs, rear services and technology while party work and political work were undertaken by the field-grade political officers and the political officers at battalion level or below. Today, all of these activities are concentrated in one person in order to insure centralized, unified, rapid and timely command; the organization of implementation is carried out in an urgent and efficient manner without decentralization or waiting, consequently, resolutions, directives and orders are implemented more rapidly and with greater effectiveness. It is necessary to correct misunderstandings resulting from a lack of understanding of the viewpoint of development and the failure to boldly change things what were suitable in the present stage but are no longer suitable. These phenomena are primarily the result of an incorrect outlook or method of evaluation but, in some cases, they are also the result of the influences of individualism, localism and so forth. The realities of the units that implemented the system first have shown that at those places where there is tight leadership and thorough education, where everyone has a firm grasp of objectives and requirements, is highly determined and fully complies with official duties and regulations and promptly corrects deviations, this system is implemented smoothly, internal unity exists and the effectiveness of the commander is heightened. Conversely, at places where good preparations are not made, where attitudes and thinking are incorrect and where individualism has not been completely eliminated, problems routinely occur that influence internal unity and influence the work efficiency of every cadre, including the commander, with the result that everyone finds it difficult to fulfill his task and duties.

2. The implementation of the one person in command system must be based on strict adherence to the principle of leadership by the party committee (party chapter) while fully developing the responsibility of the commander.

Everyone knows that the leadership of the party is the origin of every victory of our army. The leadership of the party is primarily manifested in the centralized, unified leadership and guidance provided by the Party Central Committee, the Political Bureau, the Secretariat and the Central Military Party Committee; at the same time, it is also manifested in the leadership and guidance provided by the various party committee echelons within each unit. The collective leadership of the party committee echelon has the purposes of tapping the intelligence of each cadre and party member and insuring unanimity of thought and action throughout the party organization and unit in the implementation of the lines, positions and policies of the party; it is also designed to create firm conditions for the commander to heighten his command effectiveness, develop the strength of the unit as much as possible and insure that the unit can complete each task as well as possible. The matters mentioned above are principles as well as experiences in the nature of traditions of our party, our army.

Recently, the units that have implemented the one person in command system have been units that have still regularly maintained and improved the quality of party committee activities. Good preparations are made for the conferences of the party committee. Before conferences are held, the secretary and the commander conduct research together or the commander, if he is also the secretary, carefully prepares a proposal, solicits the opinions of the various party committee members and correctly proposes the matters that must be discussed at the conference, especially matters of key importance to the unit concerning which there are still differing opinions. At the party committee conference, the central task of each period, the emergency tasks and the major positions and measures as well as the objectives and requirements that must be met are thoroughly discussed, thereby highly tapping the intelligence of the collective. The conference conclusion is also thoroughly prepared and accurately reflects the opinions of the majority; personal opinions do not prevail over the opinions of the collective. At the units that operate in this manner, conferences are held in a short amount of time, the quality of activities has been improved, internal unity is maintained and the unit commander is better able to complete his task well. Conversely, at units that do not firmly adhere to the principles and system of leadership, matters that must be presented to the party committee (or its standing committee) for discussion and decision are not discussed to the point of unanimous agreement, consequently, this has adversely affected the results of work, internal relationships and the effectiveness of leadership and command. There have also been cases in which, due to the failure to thoroughly prepare for a conference of the party committee (or standing committee), the conclusions that became the resolution of the conference failed to reflect the opinions of the majority; in one case, the secretary reached the conclusions almost entirely on his own and based them on his own opinions, with the result that the resolution did not reflect the will and intellect of the party committee, consequently, it lacked force and unanimity and affected the work and progress of the unit.

On the basis of these actual experiences, we must once again state: in order to implement the one person in command system well, one of the primary requirements is to fully comply with the principle of collective leadership by the party committee and to improve the quality of party committee activities.

We must always remember that the relationship, which is in the nature of a principle, between the party committee and the commander is the relationship between the leader and the person being led. The commander must comply with the resolutions of the party committee and must never act in a manner that is contrary to resolutions of the party committee; he and the secretary must take the initiative and present to the party committee matters that must be discussed and decided by it but he must not merely rely upon the collective of the party committee. The party committee must provide close leadership but never take over the task of the commander, rather, it must create favorable conditions for the commander to fulfill his task. The issue of main importance is that the commander must fulfill his responsibility and always respect the collective; in the face of difficult, complex and urgent changes in the situation, he must dare to be decisive, dare to assume responsibility and not miss opportunities, stand with his hands folded and wait.

The collective leadership of the party committee and the command activities of the commander always require the highest possible unanimity. If, when the situation is developing in a rapid and urgent manner, matters arise that lie beyond his scope of responsibility, the commander must still look for every opportunity to ask the opinions of the collective of the party committee's standing committee. If time does not permit, the commander must make a prompt decision in order to rapidly win victory; at the same time, he must immediately notify each party committee member of his decision and later report to the entire party committee and assume responsibility to it for his decision. If there is a difference of opinion between the party committee and commander concerning a decision or position, it must be immediately reported to the party committee and commander on the upper echelon in order to be resolved. If the situation is urgent and does not allow time to report to or wait for a decision from the upper echelon, the commander has the authority to make a decision in order to rapidly meet the demands of the situation; at the same time, he must report to and request a directive from the upper echelon and be responsible to it for his decision. These procedures are designed to promptly deal with the situation and have the winning of victory as their highest objective.

However, experience has shown that with commanders who are competent and skilled, who firmly adhere to the principle of collective leadership, who are fully responsible to the leadership of the party committee and who make thorough preparations so that the party committee can discuss and decide the matters they raise, unexpected developments that lie beyond the scope of responsibility and authority of the commander are generally few in number. The skilled, competent commander never considers this special method of handling situations to be a universal principle that reduces the role of the collective leadership of the party committee. As for the party committee, it must always gather correct opinions and utilize every creative capability of each member. The party committee must use persuasion to show the difference between right and wrong, show everyone the truth and reach a high level of agreement; it must resolutely comply with the principle of majority rule but never use the majority to infringe upon the individual and must create every possible condition for heightening the effectiveness of command and implementing the one person in command system as best possible. Matters pertaining to lines and principles must be thoroughly discussed and resolved in a clear, unequivocal manner. Matters related to specific positions and measures should not be imposed in a compulsory manner, thereby depriving the person who organizes their implementation of the use of creativity.

3. In the process of implementing the one person in command system, we must always display a high sense of organization and discipline, especially discipline in complying with the lines and policies of the party, the laws of the state, the principles, systems, orders and regulations of the army and the resolutions, directives and orders of the upper echelon; on this basis, we must correctly establish the various relationships.

Both the leadership of the party committee and the command activities of the commander have the purpose of successfully carrying out the tasks of the unit in exact accordance with the lines and policies of the party, the laws of the state and the resolutions, directives and orders of the upper echelon with the highest possible results.

The results of the completion of a task are the measurement of the leadership effectiveness of the party committee and of the competency and skill of the commander. The highest ranking commander within the unit is also the person that has the greatest responsibility to the upper echelon, to the party committee on his echelon and to all cadres and soldiers for the completion of each task of the unit. The display of talents, creativity and decisiveness by the commander must be fully encouraged. This is a matter of extreme importance in complying with the one person in command system.

The commander who fulfills his responsibility and has the trust of the upper and lower echelons must be a person who acts in accordance with lines, positions and policies and fully complies with principles, systems and regulations; who scrupulously implements the resolutions, directives and orders of the upper echelon and the resolutions of the party committee on his echelon in a thorough and creative spirit. As a person who possesses political skills and a proper style, the good commander never abuses his authority, never likes to be ostentatious and never handles matters in a haphazard fashion or in a manner that goes beyond his authority. In conjunction with fully complying with the directives and orders of the commander on the upper echelon, including the orders and directives of the deputy commanders on the upper echelon, the commander must also respect the deputy commanders and staffs that assist him and create every possible condition for them to fulfill their duties and tap the strength of the entire unit and must work with them to complete each task. At places where the commander operates in this manner, internal unity and positive factors develop more with each passing day. Conversely, there are also some comrades who take over or infringe upon the work of the deputy commanders, who rarely hold discussions with their specialized deputy commanders or who only discuss matters with them in a form for form's sake manner and rarely consider their opinions. They sometimes even use their authority as a commander to reject solutions proposed by cadres on the deputy commander level merely because they did not seek their opinion. Such commanders cause many negative phenomena to develop; their deputy commanders are hesitant and reluctant; the results of work are limited and the unit makes progress slowly.

Deputy commanders must display a high level of discipline and fully obey their commander. They must fulfill their duty as persons who assist the commander, be thoroughly familiar with the work assigned to them, take the initiative and report the situation and prepare plans and propose opinions in a full and accurate manner so that the commander can make an accurate decision. After their plans and proposals have been approved by the commander, they must guide their thorough implementation and make a full report on the results achieved. When engaged in discussion and

debate, they must boldly present their opinions and endeavor to distinguish between right and wrong; however, once a directive or order has been issued, they must obey it unconditionally and implement it thoroughly. It is necessary to guard against and overcome the irresponsible practice of not expressing one's opinions during conferences but talking at great length outside conferences and the phenomenon of being negative in the implementation of a decision, of doing as one sees fit, not fully complying with the intentions of the commander and providing full reports when one's opinions are not accepted, thereby affecting unity, unanimity and the completion of tasks.

In order for the one person in command system to be implemented well, it is very important to establish the correct relationships between the upper echelon and the lower echelon and between the commander and the persons who assist him on the basis of fully complying with lines, policies and regulations and correctly implementing the principle that the lower echelon must obey the upper echelon and deputy commanders must obey the commander; at the same time, we must establish and cultivate comradeship and cooperation among unit members so that they create the conditions for one another to complete their tasks.

4. Every effort must be made to provide cadres with basic, systematic and comprehensive training while assigning cadres to jobs in exact accordance with their capabilities and in a manner in which they establish complete staffs and can support one another.

One of the major strongpoints of the corps of cadres of the party within our army is that it was forged for many years in the revolution and the revolutionary war, is loyal, possesses political consciousness and is experienced. However, compared to the requirements of tasks in the new stage, some shortcomings still exist, especially the lack of basic, systematic and comprehensive training. The majority of military cadres have not received basic political training and have not delved deeply into party work or political work. The majority of political cadres have not received military training and have not delved deeply into military affairs. This weakness was also evident in the past when the commander and the political officer were each in charge of a different area; now that one person is in charge of both areas, it is, of course, even more difficult to avoid certain shortcomings and difficulties at first. Therefore, we must concern ourselves with comprehensively cultivating the capabilities and qualities of cadres to insure that the one person in command system is implemented well.

Over the long range, we must provide cadres with basic, systematic and comprehensive training. However, in the immediate future, we must concentrate our efforts on providing training in areas in which cadres are still weak. Comrades who are assigned the task of serving as a commander must not only have a firm grasp of the military line, viewpoints and thinking of the party and the military science and art of a people's war to protect the fatherland and constantly improve their command and management skills and be the masters of existing weapons and equipment, but must also have a firm grasp of the principles, regulations and requirements of party work, political work and so forth. In order to meet this requirement, we must give immediate attention to training those commanders who are military cadres in

party work and political work. With regard to those comrades who are political cadres and have now become commanders, we must give our attention to immediately providing them with military training. Training must delve deeply into the duties of each echelon and person; the organization must adopt a thorough plan for training cadres; each cadre must take the initiative and actively study and raise his qualifications in every area in conjunction with cultivating good qualities and rapidly correcting his weaknesses in order to rapidly achieve the ability needed to complete the duties and tasks of the commander.

In conjunction with training, it is necessary to assign cadres to jobs in a manner consistent with their capabilities and in a manner that establishes complete staffs so that they can support one another in their work. The assignment of cadres must insure that the commander is a person who can develop rapidly, can take over each aspect of the unit's work, can unite everyone and insure that everyone fulfills his responsibility. The organization must be efficiently rearranged so that cadres have the conditions needed to support one another, needed to unite with and help one another. However, with regard to cadres, once the structure of the organization has been decided, they must fulfill their tasks and duties well and not affect either unity or the work being performed for any reason. Units whose commander is a military cadre must have a skilled deputy commander in charge of politics, one who is fully capable of helping the commander. In units in which a political cadre becomes commander, it is necessary for the deputy commander in charge of military affairs to be rather well qualified so that he can competently assist the commander.

In the deployment of cadres, an effort must be made to establish an adequate staff, one that is neither too large nor too small and is based on a regular-force organizational system; if the staff is too large, it is difficult to assign tasks and the habit of depending upon others to have work performed easily develops; if the staff is inadequate and staff members must perform two jobs at once, it is impossible to achieve specialization. Both of these phenomena create difficulties for the commander and influence work.

It is necessary to take the initiative and provide close ideological and organizational leadership and guidance in order to insure results from the very outset.

The implementation of the one person in command system within our army represents a change compared to the previous command system. For this reason, everything from outlook and thinking to work procedures and methods must change accordingly.

When implementing a new system well, it is usually difficult to avoid shortcomings and sometimes even deviations; however, instead of seeking perfecting and waiting until all the necessary regulations have been established, we must rapidly implement this system, must gain experience while working and will, in this way, gradually correct deviations and supplement and perfect the regulations regarding this system. Of course, we must endeavor to establish every condition needed to make thorough preparations and resolve problems pertaining to thinking and organization well so that everyone has absolute confidence and the system is implemented well at the very outset, thereby reducing the negative phenomena that might occur to the lowest possible level.

The process of implementation in the units that implemented this system previously has shown: the successful units are units that have provided close leadership and guidance of thinking and organization from the very outset; in the various stages of the implementation of the system, they have clearly established the objectives and requirements that must be met, taken the initiative in preventing possible deviations and assigned cadres in an efficient manner while providing them with necessary training. At the same time, they have adopted specific regulations governing the various activity systems and procedures, constantly gained experience and, in this manner, continued to supplement these systems and procedures, making them increasingly complete, while always attaching importance to heightening the sense of organization and discipline of everyone, improving everyone's work methods and promptly resolving personal problems. In these units, not only is the one person in command system implemented well, but good results are achieved in their work, their internal unity is even stronger and the unit make progress in every area.

Today, the conditions needed to implement the one person in command system throughout the army are becoming increasingly complete. The problem faced at this time throughout the army as well as within each unit is that we must urgently make good preparations, the most important of which are gaining a thorough understanding of the party's position with regard to implementing the one person in command system within the army, correctly deploying and properly training cadres, deeply researching and creatively applying the experiences of the units that implemented this system first and so forth.

This is a major task in the organizational work of our army. The party committees and cadres on all echelons have the responsibility of completing the implementation of the one person in command system throughout the army in order to make an important contribution to raising the regular-force level of our army to a new stage of development, further developing the strength of our organization and the effectiveness of command and raising the fighting strength and the level of combat readiness of our armed forces in the new stage.

FOOTNOTES

- * Written on the basis of data contained in a preliminary review conducted by the Political General Department.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

NEED FOR COORDINATION IN COMBAT STRESSED

Hanoi TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN [PEOPLE'S ARMY REVIEW] in Vietnamese No 10, Oct 80 pp 46-52 and 62

[Article by Phan Le: "The Combat Coordination Among the Various Branches and Services of Our Army"]

[Text] Today's scientific-technological revolution and its achievements, which are being applied ever more quickly and widely in the military field, have been and are leading to major changes in the military art of modern warfare. The emergence of many new, highly accurate, long-range means of war with great destructive power together with the development and establishment of modern technical branches and services is one of the primary causes of these changes. One of the characteristics of the development of military art in modern warfare is the development of combat coordination among the various branches and services.

Today, according to a viewpoint shared by many foreign military theorists, combat coordination among the various services and branches in the world has undergone many developments in modern warfare. They include the centralized use of a large force of troops together with very many modern means of war, such as various types of missiles armed with nuclear warheads, strategic bombers, tactical aircraft of all types, warships and submarines, tanks, combat vehicles, artillery and so forth. They include coordinated actions and an extremely complex unity of efforts among the various types of means of combat and among the various branches and services over an area of unprecedented magnitude, on land, at sea, in the air and even in space. They include the activities of the army as well as the very quickly unfolding and rapidly changing battlefield situation. They include the emergence of many new and very diverse methods and forms of warfare, which cause combat to be intense, continuous, difficult and fierce. They include greatly increased losses in manpower and technical materials. Since the start of World War II, the equipment of an infantry division (mechanized infantry) of those countries that have a modern army has increased as follows: a 16-fold increase in tanks, a 37-fold increase in trucks and armored vehicles, a 10-fold increase in the horsepower of engines per person, a 5-fold increase in wireless means of communication, a 30-fold increase in the amount of ammunition for the various types of single round artillery and mortars... The facts presented above have led to changes of a revolutionary nature in the fields of command, management, training, education and so forth within the army in order to fully develop its new fighting strength in the methods of modern warfare and in combat coordination among the branches and services.

Our army has also acquired certain knowledge and experience concerning combat coordination among the various branches and services in the wars of liberation and the recent wars to defend the country.

In the war of resistance against the French colonialists, our army's combat coordination developed from simple to complex forms, from small scale to large scale, from a low level to a high level. This reflected the gradual development of combat tasks, the level of organization and the weapons and technology of our army in the process of the war. In this war, the combat coordination of our army, primarily of the main force infantry units, began as coordination among the infantry, artillery and engineers in each battle. By the final years of the war of resistance, combat coordination had reached the scale of campaigns and was taking place among many infantry units, artillery, engineer, signal, transport and other units. The high development of combat coordination in the war against the French colonialists was evident in the historic Dien Bien Phu campaign. In this campaign, our army established coordination among many well trained, combat experienced infantry divisions and ground artillery regiments, anti-aircraft artillery regiments, engineer regiments, signal units, transport units and so forth over a broad area and for a rather long period of time and excellently completed the mission of the campaign. Thus, by the final years of the war of resistance against the French colonialists, our army had achieved a certain level of combat coordination, primarily coordination among a number of branches within the army and between the various branches of the infantry and a small number of ground artillery, engineer, air defense artillery, transport and other units using weapons and technical equipment that were not modern and were few in number. In terms of the organization of command operations, this coordination was still simple in nature and restricted to a few types of campaigns by ground forces in only one type of terrain (either in the mountainous jungles, in the midlands or in the lowlands). This was an inevitable development in view of the fact that our army was, at that time, both fighting and building itself up, was advancing from guerrilla warfare to regular-force operations, from purely infantry units to military corps consisting of several combined branches. The technical services had not been established yet and the various branches of the ground forces had not developed completely. The level of development of our cadres and soldiers regarding large-scale, concerted warfare was not high. The rear service support facilities and material-technical bases of the country were still poor, etc. Nevertheless, our army made a very high effort to fully develop its fighting strength in this method of warfare and made decisive contributions to the victory of the campaign.

At the start of the war of resistance against the U.S. imperialist aggressors, our army in both the South and the North fought under new historic conditions. Our army and people had to defeat a very modern aggressor army in order to "liberate the South, protect the North and reunify the country." One-half of our country had been liberated; the restoration of the economy, socialist transformation and socialist construction were being carried out in the North. With the tremendous help of the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries, our army continued to be built and developed in every area along the lines of strongly advancing to the level of a regular-force, modern army. The various branches of the ground forces were becoming increasingly complete; the air defense-air force and the navy began to

be built and later developed at an increasingly rapid rate and on an increasingly large scale. Weapons and technical equipment were being increased and improved along increasingly modern lines. The organization of the army, of the various branches and services was being strengthened and developed along the lines of uniformity and coordination. Cadres and soldiers were being educated and trained in regular-force procedures in order to learn more and more about modern warfare on the basis of thoroughly comprehending the military line of the party. All of these factors laid the foundation for our army to constantly raise the level of combat coordination among the various branches and services in this war.

In the North, from the very first days of the fight against the war of destruction waged by the U.S. imperialists, our army fought battles coordinated among the various forces, the various modern technical branches of the air defense-air force and the navy in order to retaliate against the U.S. Air Force and Navy. In the battles against attacking U.S. aircraft, there was combat coordination between the many different types of anti-aircraft artillery units and the low altitude network of the militia and self-defense forces and between the mobile forces fighting the enemy and the stationary forces. In the course of development of the war, large-scale, campaign coordination emerged among the anti-aircraft artillery units, the ground-to-air guided missile units, the attack aircraft units and the air defense forces of the various military elements in order to protect political, economic and communication centers or attack enemy aircraft in important directions of the strategic communication lines. The high point of the development of a coordinated, modern air defense campaign was the campaign to retaliate against the strategic air offensive carried out by B-52's of the U.S. imperialists against Hanoi and Haiphong in December 1972. In this campaign, our army achieved smooth coordination in the organization and command of a large number of missile units, anti-aircraft artillery units, attack aircraft units and air defense units of the various localities, used a relatively large quantity of modern means of war in complex situations and excellently completed the mission of the campaign.

The navy, although it was being built up while engaging in combat, also constantly raised its level of combat coordination in the process of retaliating against the acts of destruction by the U.S. Navy.

In order to carry out the task of supporting the great frontlines so that they could win victory over the U.S. pirate aggressors, our army also created and successfully applied a unique method of combat coordination, strategic transport support combat coordination, in both tactics and campaigns. It involved combat coordination among the motor transport military corps, infantry units, air defense units, engineer units and so forth for the purpose of defeating the air and ground operations being conducted by the enemy in a vain attempt to disrupt our strategic transport lines from the North to the South.

On the southern battlefield, the development of the combat coordination of our army was marked by different characteristics. There, combat coordination also developed from small scale to large scale, from a low level to a high level, from the simple to the complex. In contrast to the war of resistance against the French, this process, due to the existence of the great rear area, was shorter in length

and involved stronger stages of development. Beginning with small-scale battles and campaigns coordinated between infantry and artillery units, such as the battles at Ba Gia, Play Me and Dong Soai, our army went on to establish relatively large-scale coordination right within the municipalities, cities and towns of the South in the general offensive and uprising of the Spring of 1968. This was coordination among the infantry, artillery and sapper units which, in turn, closely coordinated with uprisings by the masses. In the strategic offensive in the spring of 1972, we saw large-scale, offensive campaigns coordinated among the infantry divisions, artillery units, tank and armored vehicle units, air defense artillery units, air defense missile units, sapper units and so forth. In addition, there also was coordination among the local artillery, sappers and armed forces in attacks on airports, port piers, rear service facilities, technical facilities and so forth of the enemy, attacks which took many different forms and varied in size. The high development of combat coordination was evident in the general offensive and uprising in the spring of 1975, especially in the historic Ho Chi Minh campaign. The most noticeable manifestations of this development were the use of a large number of infantry units and large quantities of weapons and technical equipment; the large-scale coordination between the combined military corps of the ground forces and the military corps composed of tanks and armored vehicles, heavy artillery, anti-aircraft artillery, missiles, attack aircraft and bombers and sappers; the large-scale coordination among ground forces, the air force and navy in many different areas and on many different types of terrain, both the mainland and at sea; and the close and large-scale coordination with the uprising forces of the masses.

Thus, by the final years of the war of resistance against the United States for national salvation, our army had achieved a level of combat coordination in modern air defense campaigns, achieved combat coordination among the various branches of the ground force and began to establish coordination among ground forces, the air defense-air force and the navy with a relatively larger amount of modern weapons and technical equipment in complex, urgent situations and over a large area. This coordination made a decisive contribution to the victorious conclusion of our nation's unprecedented war for national salvation. Recently, the level of coordination reached a new stage in the two wars to protect the fatherland against the Chinese aggressor army and their lackeys on the southwestern border and the northern border of our country.

In the protection of the socialist fatherland, our army's combat coordination among the various branches and services has incorporated and developed upon existing experiences while encompassing new factors that did not exist in previous wars. This reflects the new requirements, requirements that are in the nature of laws, in the work of protecting the independent, sovereign socialist state; the new elements in the military line and strategy of our party in the new stage; the latest developments in the fighting strength of our army; the new capabilities of the national defense system, of the people's war to protect the fatherland when our people are the total masters of the country and are carrying out the socialist revolution throughout the country.

1. Combat coordination among the modern technical branches and services on a medium scale and a large scale can take place during the very first days of a war

to protect the fatherland, can take place in border regions, on the islands and along the seacoast. This is an objective requirement in implementing the strategic thinking and determination of our party and people in the cause of protecting the fatherland. As everyone knows, the Chinese expansionists are scheming to commit aggression against and annex our country. They are engaging in acts of provocation and sabotage along the border, in the offshore waters and on our islands and threatening to unleash another war of aggression against our people. In order to firmly protect the socialist Vietnamese fatherland and thwart their scheme to attack and rapidly win victory over us, our army and people must strongly retaliate against them as soon as they launch a war of aggression against our country and at the very first spot they commit aggression against us. Medium-scale and large-scale combat coordination among the various branches and services is one of the measures for delivering decisive blows by means of a combined strength to the enemy for the purpose of annihilating very many enemy troops, protecting our land, protecting our people and protecting their socialist construction.

Today, our army is continuing to be built into a powerful, revolutionary people's army on an increasingly high regular-force, modern level in exact accordance with the guidelines and task of building up the people's armed forces and in exact accordance with the military line and strategy set forth by the party with regard to the cause of protecting the fatherland. Cadres and soldiers are constantly improving their grasp of the military art of the people's war and their grasp of the modern methods of warfare and combat coordination among the various branches and services. The organization of our army is constantly being strengthened and developed. The various services, such as the ground forces, the air force and the navy are being built and developed in accordance with the requirements of a war to protect the fatherland; the branches within each service are developing more with each passing day in a manner consistent with the role and task of each service. Weapons and technical equipment are constantly being increased and improved along the lines of achieving a high level of modernization. Our army is ready to fight at battle positions prepared in advance. All of these factors give our army a firm foundation for effectively applying the method of medium-scale and large-scale combat coordination among the various branches and services during the very first days of a war to protect the fatherland, regardless of where the enemy first commits aggression against us.

2. Combat coordination among the various branches and services can be achieved over a broad area, on many different types of terrain and at the same time for the purpose of thwarting the scheme of the enemy to launch a mass attack on our country from many different directions, from the mainland, the sea and the air. This point differs from previous wars in which combat coordination generally occurred on a selected battlefield and on a specific type of terrain in order to attack weaknesses of an enemy that was already on the territory of our fatherland.

The development mentioned above demands that our army, both main force units and local units, be skilled in combat coordination among the various branches and services on every scale, especially medium scale and large scale, on all types of terrain, on the mainland, at sea and in the air. There are even times when, in the same battle or campaign, military corps must fight on many different types of

terrain, such as the mountainous jungles, the foothills, the lowlands and the seacoast. In order to achieve high effectiveness in combat coordination, the command cadres of the various branches, services and military corps must improve their ability to organize and command coordinated operations in order to insure close coordination among units, among the different services and branches. One very important requirement is to make use of the various types of modern weapons in a manner consistent with each type of terrain and achieve the full power of these types of weapons on the terrain on which the military corps have been assigned their tasks. In combat on every type of terrain, the military corps must achieve a high level of combat coordination, must closely coordinate with one another and must create strong firepower, tremendous assault power and high mobility in order to rapidly smash the aggression by the enemy troops on that type of terrain.

In order to fully achieve the combined strength of the various branches, services and military corps in combat coordination on the various types of terrain of our country, our army must effectively prepare the battlefields on the various fronts on which tasks have been assigned. On the basis of the types of terrain on these fronts, the various branches, services and military corps must truly prepare themselves to take correct, flexible actions on these types of terrain, actions consistent with the tasks assigned to them. These preparations must be made in accordance with a plan and must be closely coordinated with the preparation of battle positions and the preparation of the battlefield by the army and people of each locality.

3. Our army's combat coordination among the various branches and services must be applied in the many different methods of fighting of the war to protect the fatherland. Today, the continuous growth of our army has led to new developments in military art and in combat coordination. The enemy will commit aggression against the territory of our country from the outside, have a large number of troops and resort to any very insidious methods of warfare. For this reason, in order to annihilate very many military forces of the enemy in conjunction with protecting the land and life of the people and the property and natural resources of the country and protecting and building socialism, our army must achieve the high level of effectiveness in fighting the enemy of combat coordination in many different types of fighting, in defensive, counter-offensive and offensive operations, so that they can win victory over the aggressors regardless of the route they choose to take and the methods they choose to employ. This differs from previous wars in which we fought an enemy who was already in our country by means of specific methods of fighting.

The military corps, branches and services must achieve a high level of combat coordination and work together to create a tremendous combined strength in order to defeat attacks by land, air attacks, airborne attacks, amphibious landings and so forth by the aggressor army. There are times when, in a campaign or on a battlefield, our army must achieve combat coordination in defensive fighting, counter-offensive fighting and offensive fighting in order to smash every warfare measure of the enemy.

The military corps, branches and services must be skilled in fighting independently in each method of fighting and must employ their full strength when on the defensive, in counter-offensives and when on the offensive. They must make highly effective use

of the modern weapons and technical equipment in each form of warfare, each form of tactics and each form of campaign waged by the military corps, branches and services in accordance with the new requirements of a war to protect the fatherland.

4. The combat coordination of our army today is the coordinated action, the close coordination of an increasingly large number of military corps, branches and services, of an increasingly large volume of various types of modern weapons and technical equipment that are routinely and closely coordinated with the local armed forces.

This development demands a truly scientific, precise, detailed and firm ability to organize and command coordinated combat operations on the part of the commanders and the command agencies of the combined troop units of the various military corps, branches and services. In order to achieve this level of ability, the commanders and command agencies on the various echelons must have a firm grasp of the new requirements of combat coordination in a way to protect the fatherland and must be thoroughly familiar with the combat order governing combined branches, the combat orders of the various branches and services and even the methods of fighting of the local armed forces. They must skillfully apply the various methods of organizing coordination and the techniques of coordination. The commanders and command agencies on the various echelons must possess modern military scientific-technical knowledge so that they can make good use of the various types of modern weapons, such as the tanks and combat vehicles of the infantry, the various types of artillery, missiles, attack aircraft, bombers, transport aircraft, reconnaissance aircraft, warships, modern signal equipment, the modern means of mobility, etc. Our cadres must have the ability to collect, analyze and process a volume of information of unprecedented magnitude, have the ability to make a decision and organize its precise, rapid implementation, have the ability to re-establish coordination in every situation, etc.

As regards troops, combat coordination with a large number of military corps and modern weapons and technical equipment demands a basic and firm grasp of combat techniques, especially those of the modern technical branches and services. This insures that they can take precise, flexible and creative action in combat coordination in complex situation. One very basic requirement is that troops must possess a high sense of organization and discipline, must scrupulously obey each order of their commander and must reject acts of liberalism and convenience that disrupt coordination in the course of warfare.

Combat coordination involving many technical branches and services with a large quantity of modern weapons and technical equipment demands the good organization of rear service-technical support work. This is the work of supplying, supplementing and replacing in a prompt and well coordinated manner a large volume of weapons, means, grain, ammunition and so forth so that troops can constantly increase their assault power, their firepower and the mobility in combat and campaigns and excellently complete their task.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

VAN TIEN DUNG SPEECH AT YOUTH UNION CONGRESS

Hanoi TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN [PEOPLE'S ARMY REVIEW] in Vietnamese No 10, Oct 80
PP 23-25

[Speech by Senior General Van Tien Dung opening the 2nd All-Army Congress of Delegates of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union: "Truly Making the People's Army a Great School of the Young Generation*"]

[Text] Dear Presidium,

Dear Hoang Quoc Viet, chairman of the Presidium of the Vietnam Fatherland Front,

Dear Dang Quoc Bao, 1st secretary of the Central Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union,

Dear delegates,

Today, the 2nd All-Army Congress of Delegates of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union opens in the capital Hanoi, the heart of the country, in preparation for the 4th National Congress of Delegates of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union. On behalf of the Central Military Party Committee and the Ministry of National Defense, we convey warm greetings and heartfelt congratulations to all delegates and, through you, to all Youth Union members and youths in the army who are performing tasks on the frontlines and in the rear area, at home and in friendly countries.

In view of the present revolutionary situation and tasks, our congress is of important significance and has a major responsibility.

The great mission of the nation of Vietnam in the new stage is to successfully build socialism, bring back prosperity and happiness to the people, firmly protect the socialist fatherland and defeat each scheme and act of sabotage and aggression of the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists, who are collaborating with the U.S. imperialists.

In the long history of the nation, our strength has never been as great as it is today. As the revolution advances, we still face many difficulties and challenges; however, we have many very basic advantages in our favor and we shall surely overcome all of

these difficulties and challenges. We can and must rapidly increase the country's strength in every area and must regularly heighten the combat readiness of our army and people in order to thwart every sinister and insidious scheme of the enemy. We are determined to work with the fraternal peoples of Laos and Kampuchea to maintain and develop upon the accomplishments of the peoples of the three countries of Indochina, thereby contributing to the cause of peace in Southeast Asia and the entire world.

Today, our army has been assigned many large tasks: maintaining combat readiness and fighting to protect the fatherland; helping to maintain political security and social order and safety; working, producing and building the economy; and fulfilling our international obligation in Laos and Kampuchea. Our army must continue to be built into a modern, regular force, increasingly powerful, revolutionary people's army. The army must be a reliable army in the cause of protecting the fatherland and must, at the same time, be an army that molds talents well, be a great school forging the new man among the young generations.

Youths constitute the majority of the personnel of the army, are a powerful force possessing robust health, intense zeal and the ability to learn rapidly and must play the dominant role in the effort to complete the glorious tasks assigned to the army by the party and state. Our congress must discuss and set forth a practical program of action and the best possible measures for mobilizing and organizing the youths of the entire army in the effort to successfully complete these tasks. The youths within our armed forces must be ready to contribute their intelligence, talents and energies for the sake of the revolutionary goals of the party, for the sake of the ideals of communism.

May the leadership and command cadres on the various levels relate to youths with deep love, confidence and respect and relate to them by means of detailed educational work, the ability to organize practical work and the setting of good examples. We surely can develop the potentials and tap the strong vitality of the young, thereby helping to increase the invincible strength of the army, completing every task and working with all the people to win victory over every enemy.

One great achievement of our party over the past half-century has been the training of several generations of youths who have enthusiastically taken the lead and made tremendous contributions in the long and extremely arduous fight and in the extremely glorious victories for the independence, freedom and socialism of our fatherland, for the sake of our international obligations.

The youths within the army today are one of the outstanding segments of the country's young generation. They possess many very basic strongpoints; at the same time, it is difficult for them to avoid the easily understood shortcomings of the young. Our common enemies, the Chinese reactionaries and the imperialists, are scheming to discolor the tradition of the revolution and disorient our youths in a vain attempt to achieve their sinister intentions.

Our congress must have the effect of further intensifying the mobilization of youths and the effort to build a strong and solid Youth Union organization within the army. We must teach and forge youths to be new socialists who fight and produce well; who

possess the spirit of collective ownership and the ability to exercise collective ownership; who are the masters of science and technology; and who possess a high sense of organization and discipline and scrupulously comply with the laws of the state and the codes, laws, regulations and rules of the army. We must establish a wholesome, cultured lifestyle. We must insure that all young men and women make marked progress in every area during their years and months in the army, thereby bringing peace of mind and enthusiasm to their parents. We must insure that the people's army is truly the great school of the young generation.

By doing this we shall implement the sacred testament of the revered President Ho Chi Minh: "Train the revolutionary generations of the future."

Our congress has the task of participating in and preparing for the national congress of Youth Union delegates, which is the great festival of the youths of our entire country and is an important political activity of youths. Let us display the spirit of collective ownership and use our collective intelligence to insure that the All-Army Congress of Youth Union Delegates is a fine success. This would be a practical way to prepare for the national congress of Youth Union delegates. In one respect, it would also help to prepare for the new changes that will occur in youth work, in general, and insure that shock youths are the "shock unit that is always present in the spearheads of the effort to build and protect the country," as directed by Le Duan, general secretary of the party.

Dear comrades,

The All-Army Congress of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union is a center of the attention of the youths of the entire country, of everyone concerned with the growth of the army, with the future generations.

The congress meets amongst the "boundless love" left behind by Uncle Ho for youths and amidst the fervent aspirations of the older generations concerning the generations succeeding them.

With confidence that you delegates will be worthy of the trust placed in you by the corps of youths within the army and fulfill the wishes of the entire party, all the people and the entire army, I hereby declare our congress open.

FOOTNOTES

- * The title of this article was provided by the editorial board of TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN.

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

INCREASED SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL COOPERATION WITH SOVIET UNION SEEN

Hanoi TAP CHI HOAT DONG KHOA HOC in Vietnamese No 8, Aug 80 pp 1-2

[Article by Nguyen Van Cang, deputy chief of the International Cooperation Department, the State Science and Technology Commission, and Nguyen Tram: "The Fine Development of Scientific and Technical Cooperation Between the SRV and the USSR"]

[Text] In conjunction with the fine development of the diplomatic relations between our country and the Soviet Union (which were established in 1950), the economic cooperation (started in 1955) and the scientific-technical cooperation between the two countries have also resulted in significant achievements.

Over the past 20 years and more (since the official signing on 7 March 1959 of the Treaty on Scientific-Technical Cooperation), the scientific-technical cooperation between the two countries has been based on the principles of equality, mutual benefit and mutual help in the proletarian international spirit and has constantly developed. Together with the tremendous, valuable and effective assistance in many areas that has been given to our country by the Soviet Union, in the field of scientific-technical cooperation, the party, government and people of the Soviet Union have, for many years, given us non-repayable financial aid with which to pay the costs related to scientific-technical cooperation and create the conditions for implementing cooperation programs. As a result, the scientific-technical cooperation between the two countries has constantly developed over the past 20 years and more, from low forms of cooperation to high forms, from several projects in several sectors to many projects in practically all fields of the national economy and from requests by us that our friends help us to the start of an agreement on a long-term program of cooperation coordinated with research involving matters that are of interest to both sides but primarily involve the Soviet Union helping Vietnam.

The results of the scientific-technical cooperation between the two countries in the past can be seen in the following areas:

Each year, we have sent hundreds of cadres to engage in research and practical training and receive higher education in the research institutes, colleges and production installations of the Soviet Union. All of the subjects of scientific-technical research and practical application have been based on the requirements of production, research and instruction at home.

The Soviet Union has sent to Vietnam hundreds of specialists and scientists to provide scientific and technical assistance, guide and coordinate research work and experiments, provide specialized instruction, etc.

Our scientific-technical organizations and installations have annually received hundreds of technical documents consisting of various types of blueprints, industrial manuscripts, standards, codes and scientific-technical information and received various types of models, such as equipment and implements used in scientific and technical research, crop varieties, breeds of livestock, species of microorganisms, varieties of medicinal plants and so forth. Some specific fields are as follows:

In the fields of agriculture, water conservancy and meteorology: the mechanization of the planting of rice, the technologies involved in the planting of cotton, the processing of tea, the classification and management of land, the production of livestock feed, the production of fertilizer from microorganisms, the production of mineral fertilizers and the production of parasitic bees to control insects, manuscripts for the design and manufacture of various types of agricultural machines, such as transplanting machines, planting machines, livestock feed grinding machines, water pumps and so forth; the design and construction of water conservancy projects, the use and protection of water sources and the development of underground water sources; matters related to typhoon and weather forecasts, hydrological forecasts, flood control, the design of a telecommunications meteorological station, the construction of a meteorological radar station, etc.

In the field of mechanical engineering: the design and manufacture of tractors, metal cutting machines, welding machines, forges, spare parts for internal combustion engines, boiler equipment and pressure equipment for the food products sector; the operation of a high frequency induction furnace, the design of a 1,000 ton fishing ship, a 10,000 cubic meters per hour water pump and so forth.

In the field of electric power and coal: the design of hydroelectric power plants, the repair and adjustment of hydroelectric turbines, the repair and operation of power shovels and diesel engines, first aid in mines, the management of electricity in mines, the design of coal mines and metal mines, both underground and strip mines, manuscripts on the design and manufacture of mining machinery, such as deep shaft pumps, electric tram cars for mines, coal shovels, digging and sorting machines, fans and so forth as well as various types of electrical machinery, such as generators, electric motors, hydroelectric turbines, power line equipment, electrical gauges, solar power equipment and so forth.

The majority of the products of the mechanical engineering sector and the electricity sector that we have produced have been based on technical manuscripts received through scientific-technical cooperation with the Soviet Union.

In the fields of communication, transportation and building, the Soviet Union has provided us with experience in researching the organization and operation of the communications-transportation sector, the registration of ships, the reconditioning of automobile parts, the technology of bridge construction, the prevention of railroad and highway cave-ins, the complete design of a new railroad line and so forth;

manuscripts on the design and manufacture of various types of machinery for the communications and transportation sector, such as cargo ships, tugboats, dredges, barges, automobile spare parts and so forth and various types of building machines, such as concrete mixers, bulldozers, cranes, earth pounding machines and so forth; designs for housing and public projects, the technology involved in ornamental and finishing work in housing construction, etc.

In the field of public health, the Soviet Union has helped us with the methods of researching malaria in the laboratory and the field, the methods of experimental and clinical research of cancer, the methods of analyzing and isolating the active ingredients of medicinal plants, the techniques of raising and processing medicinal plants, medical information activities, the research and treatment of a number of viruses, diseases of the circulatory system, etc.

In the fields of light industry, the food products industry, posts-telegraph, metal refining, chemicals, geological projects, forestry, pisciculture, and technology within the cultural sector, many scientific-technical problems and production problems have been resolved through scientific-technical cooperation with the Soviet Union and good results have been achieved.

Our country and the Soviet Union signed a long-term scientific-technical cooperation program for the years 1976-1980. The matters of long-term scientific-technical cooperation with which our two countries have been concerned and which they have developed have not only been of scientific-technical value, but have also laid the foundation for economic cooperation between the two countries. At present, the two countries are initiating cooperation in several other areas, such as protecting power lines against lightning, researching the physical properties and industrial properties of wood, researching the most efficient techniques for harvesting timber under the conditions of Vietnam, researching ways to protect wood against the effects of pests and the environment, researching ways to combat malaria, treat diseases of the eye, raise medicinal plants, treat polio with live polio vaccine and the prevention of plague, researching the mechanization of the planting of rice, the protection of crops, the raising of bees, the development of silkworm production, etc.

In addition, there is a relationship of close cooperation between the Science and Technology Commission of our state and the Science and Technology Commission and the Commission of State Standards of the Soviet Union, the purpose of which is to exchange professional experiences; the Soviet Union has systematically provided us with knowledge of economic management, scientific-technical management, work involving standards, weights and measures and quality control. The Science and Technology Commission of our state and Vietnam Institutes of Science have signed an agreement to cooperate with the State Science and Technology Commission of the Soviet Union and the member countries of the "Interkosmos" organization in the field of earth exploration from space and space research. The cooperation between the two sides in these fields have yielded fine results; in particular, it led to the brilliant success of the coordinated space flight by V.V. Go-ro-bat-co [Vietnamese phonetics] and Pham Tuan on 24 July 1980.

In the coming years, the number of matters concerning which our country and the Soviet Union will engage in scientific-technical cooperation will increase even more and these matters will become more diverse and detailed. We will rely upon the Soviet Union for much more scientific and technical help, primarily help formulating the long-term scientific-technical development plan in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

We are confident that, in the years to come, the scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries will be strengthened and broadened. In order to insure the good implementation of cooperation projects and insure that high results are achieved, the concerned ministries, sectors and agencies of our country must adopt plans for summarizing and evaluating the results that have been achieved and gaining experience in the following areas: the formulation of plans for cooperation, the organizing of negotiations, the implementation of agreements that are signed, the selection and preparation of cadres to be sent to the Soviet Union for practical training and observation, the organizing of work with specialists, the processing and use of manuscripts and models, the application of the results of scientific-technical cooperation in production, research, instruction, etc. At the same time, they must reorganize the management of scientific-technical cooperation.

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

HUNGARY-VIETNAM FRIENDSHIP TECHNICAL SCHOOL DESCRIBED

Hanoi VIETNAM (Pictorial) in English No 256, Apr 80 p 27

[Text]

More than one hundred workers will soon graduate from the Vietnam-Hungary Friendship Technical School. They will work at the plants of the Metal and Engineering Ministry. There are a thousand others now being trained at the school. They are the pride of their school, of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and of the Hungarian Communist Youth Union. The skills they are gaining are the result of the wholehearted help of Hungarian young people to Vietnam.

Through four years of voluntary work, Hungarian young people set aside nearly 190,000,000 forints for the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union to build this school. Eleven different trades are taught: electrician, mechanic, motor fitter, etc.

• The school is equipped with modern machines and teaching aids from Hungary and uses our friends' advanced curriculum, • head teacher Nguyen Khar Chan told us. • Besides it is helped a by the Hungarian specialists so the workers learn of relatively quickly. Ninety five per cent of the trainees in the first batch have passed the theoretical and practical tests, over 30 % having passed with distinction or credit though there are many difficulties in organization and using of new methods and also the inadequacy of translated materials •

The students can learn their trade in a school which is at the same time a real industrial plant. Modern machines such as galvanometers, checking machine, lathes and grinders, enable the students to get experience of any technique they are liable to encounter after graduation. The school has also produced spare parts, instruments, etc for nearby plants in order to increase its income. In 1979, the school brought 86,000 dong.

The Hungarian specialists headed by Heks Ernő are present in almost all activities of the school: organization, training machine operation and repair. Their devotion and responsibility are of great help to the teachers and workers. The friendship between the two technical schools of Vietnam and Hungary, reflects the friendship and close co-operation between the young people of the two countries. As Heks Ernő said, • Young Hungarians have the slogan 'we helped Vietnam, we are helping Vietnam and we will help Vietnam'. And we at this school, make the same pledge to help you morally and materially so that the school will further develop and advance •

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

NEW COMMERCIAL POLICIES EXPLAINED

Hanoi TAP CHI GIANG VIEN in Vietnamese No 6, Nov-Dec 80 pp 1-8

[Unsigned article: "Some Basic Matters in the Recently Promulgated Policies Regarding Distribution and Circulation"]

[Text] Recently the Political Bureau issued a resolution regarding the improvement of distribution and circulation. It is a document with very great significance with regard to theory as well as practical guidance. In order to concretize the basic viewpoints of the Political Bureau resolution, the Council of Ministers has promulgated a number of specific policies. It is essential that cadres and party members fully understand those policies so that they can have deep understanding of the party's viewpoints and strictly implement the Political Bureau resolution.

The recently promulgated government policies are only intended to resolve a number of the most urgent problems at present regarding distribution and circulation. They include policies regarding the state purchasing of agricultural products in general, especially grain; policies regarding the state purchasing of pork, the management of rubber, and market management; procedures for private individuals to engage in industry, commerce, and service; the opening of bank accounts; a decision regarding assuring the living standards of workers and civil servants; and over-all directives regarding the implementation of the Political Bureau resolution regarding distribution and circulation. The basic and relatively comprehensive objectives of those policies are intended to stimulate the development of production, strengthen state control of the sources of supply, stabilize the market, assure the living conditions of the workers and civil servants, strive to balance the budget, and tightly manage money. In more general terms among those objectives the most outstanding are serving the development of production, controlling the sources of supply, managing money, etc. The matters of production, state purchasing, distribution, etc., are closely interrelated. Therefore, the above objectives are also closely related and must be fully understood during the implementation process.

In gaining understanding of the policies, it is necessary to pay attention to the most outstanding matter at present: closely combining strengthening state purchasing to control goods with promoting the development of production. In

actuality, as stated in the Political Bureau resolution, production has developed slowly, the state cannot control products, and distribution and circulation cannot manifest their positive role in promoting production and are separate from production. Therefore, the newly promulgated policies clearly confirm and manifest the combination of those two aspects.

The newly promulgated policies stipulate that it is necessary to combine state purchasing with the supplying of means of production to serve production and the stimulation of production development. On that basis, supplying means of production will be in accord with the requirements of production, will facilitate the development of production, and will increase the effectiveness of the use of materials and equipment. Furthermore, state purchasing to control the supply of goods will be facilitated and assured. Supplying by the state of such technical materials as fertiliser, POL, insecticides, electricity to operate pumps, and such production season services as the use of tractors in soil preparation, water pumps, etc., has in itself affirmed the responsibility and duty of the peasants to sell agricultural products to the state in the guiding spirit of the new policies. The state can also supply those production means and services in advance (during the production phase) in order to receive agricultural products later (after the harvest).

At present, the supplying of production means is separate from the state purchasing of agricultural products. Materials are supplied by the agricultural organs, while the state purchasing of agricultural products is the responsibility of the Ministry of Food or the Ministry of Commerce. Therefore, the above-mentioned policy is a major improvement. According to that formula, with the same amount of materials we can purchase a quantity of foodstuffs many times greater than in the past.

In the implementation of that two-way relationship, the new policies clearly manifest the state's guidance thoughts, which are as follows:

- Concentrated, specialized production areas based on the requirements of the state plan are more beneficial than miscellaneous production areas not based on a plan.
- Peasants in cooperatives and production collectives are more beneficial than individual peasants.
- Exchanges according to contracts are more beneficial than exchanges based on negotiated prices, i.e. planned exchanges are more beneficial than unplanned exchanges.

Those guidance thoughts are manifested specifically in the exchange ratio between state industrial products and the peasant's agricultural products. That ratio with regard to the instances mentioned above is relatively lower than in other instances.

With those principles, the exchange of goods between the state and the peasants has the effect of furthering the concentration and specialization of production, furthering planned exchanges, and promoting agricultural cooperativization. By means of their specific, actual benefits, the peasants will clearly realize those guidance thoughts and voluntarily enter onto the path of large-scale socialist production. F. Engels said, "Distribution is not merely a negative result of

production and exchange; in turn, it exerts a reciprocal effect on production and exchange." * At the beginning of the process of applying that policy, although it have been implemented only a short time, in some places the peasants have quickly reached these actual conclusions and have proved the correctness of those view points.

Implementing the policy of stabilizing the obligation to sell agricultural products, and combining the implementation of two-way contracts with state purchasing at negotiated prices.

Previously, producers were not sufficiently encouraged for two reasons: the obligation to sell agricultural products was not stabilized from year to year and the state purchasing prices, even for products produced in excess of the plan, were still low. With the old state purchasing policy, distribution and circulation exerted a negative influence on production. The negative influence was so serious that many new scientific-technical factors were introduced into agriculture but did not have much effect, to the degree that in some places even simple reproduction could not be assured. During the past 5 years the state has invested in agriculture a considerable amount of money, but crop productivity has failed to increase and has even declined. That situation may also be due to other reasons, but it is certain that one reason is that distribution and state purchasing policies that were created under wartime conditions are no longer appropriate to the actual situation.

The new policy also stipulates that the obligation to sell agricultural products be stabilized over a relatively long period -- 5 years -- so that the peasants can be at ease, raise the level of intensive cultivation, and increase the yields of crops and livestock. The new policy, which is tied in with that system, also stipulated the right of workers to use and circulate products produced in excess of the plan (or in excess of contracts with the state), and that if they need to sell such products the state will purchase them at negotiated prices. Furthermore, with regard to some types of agricultural products of which the state needs to purchase large quantities but the guidance prices of which are not very appropriate (for example, the price of meat, etc.), the ratio of products purchased in accordance with the stipulated obligations is relatively low and therefore the part purchased at negotiated prices is greater, which has a greater stimulating effect. With regard to collective livestock raising by cooperatives, that change is even greater, in order to stimulate collective livestock raising and support the collective economy.

However, it is necessary to guard against the viewpoint of only stressing the benefit of the peasants but disregarding the benefit of the state, which is manifested in raising the negotiated prices and thus resulting in an excessive budget deficit.

The exchange of agricultural products between the peasants and the state can be carried out in many flexible forms. First, the form of the two-way contract. According to that form, the peasants and the state exchange agricultural products

* F. Engels, "Anti-Duhring," Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, p. 252.

and industrial products according to a definite, rational ratio. For example, the state supplies a unit of fertiliser, fuel, or materials while the peasants sell to the state a certain quantity of agricultural products. That ratio is determined by the state purchasing organ and the peasants according to the conditions in each area. Second, if that form is not used it is possible to exchange agricultural products and industrial products at negotiated prices. Individual peasants may sell agricultural products for cash. Many people refer to that formula in brief as "buying high and selling high." In fact, with that formula the peasants may not benefit as much as by the two-way contract formula because the prices of industrial goods increase unexpectedly and because the source of supply is unstable, and the state cannot plan the management of products. Therefore, the two-way contract formula is beneficial to both the peasants and the state. In guiding implementation it is necessary to enable the peasants to clearly realise that and guide the peasants in voluntarily exchanging products according to contracts with the state. At present, there are few industrial goods to exchange with the peasants. That is an objective reality that influences the wide popularisation of the formula of state purchasing according to contract. The state is studying ways to create new means of production and consumer goods, in addition to those that are being used to exchange with the peasants, such as materials with which to build houses and drying patios, and even to build kitchens and other living facilities for peasants' houses, for which there is a great demand, especially in the Mekong Delta area.

However, it is necessary to realize another problem related to the formula of state purchasing at negotiated prices, i.e. at high prices. As stated above, circulation is related to distribution, finance, and money, and vice versa. State purchasing at negotiated prices has created conditions for the state to control many more goods than previously, but that has caused great expenses for the budget, to the extent that it is necessary to make up for a considerable deficit, and our capability to distribute consumer goods at supply prices has been limited.

The new policies clearly manifest the responsibilities of both the buyer and the seller -- the state and the peasants. That is another new point in policy of state purchasing according to two-way contracts. The new policies clearly determine the responsibilities of the peasants and the state to supply production means, consumer goods, or grain (with regard to the areas producing industrial crops, vegetables and fruits, etc.). It clearly determines the exemptions and reduced obligations of the peasants, and appropriately compensates the state for damages caused by failure to supply goods in accordance with the negotiated contracts. The relationships between the two parties are equal. That serves to strengthen the relationship between the peasants and the state and stimulate the peasants' enthusiasm for developing production, while also heightening the responsibility of the state organs responsible for serving production.

The newly promulgated policies not only clearly determine the relationships between the state and the peasants but also clearly determine the responsibility of the state economic enterprises. First, the state enterprises must turn over all products to the state, specifically to the commercial organ. That system will also be applied to the products and goods of the research and experimental stations. Second, with regard to products produced beyond the plan, the state pays state purchasing prices corresponding to the negotiated prices of the peasants' agricultural products. The increased income resulting from sales at those high prices

will essentially be used to increase the income and welfare of the cadres and workers. Because the state farms are, in general, still experiencing certain difficulties with regard to their production conditions, and because production management is still weak and deficient, the new stipulations will serve to encourage the state farms to strongly develop production, stimulate a strong transformation of management along commercial lines, and oppose the supply-administrative type of management.

With regard to the processing industry enterprises, in addition to implementing plans utilizing raw materials assigned by the state, the new policies also authorize and encourage the enterprises to further develop production by means of raw materials bought from the producers at negotiated prices. The commercial organs will purchase such products on the basis of rational production costs, i.e. at production costs which take into consideration the equipment, machinery, fuel, labor, factories, etc., of the state. With that formula the enterprise can fully utilize the capacity of the equipment and the productivity of labor, and therefore increase the rational income of cadres and workers and increase the amount of products supplied to society.

The new policies, in general, represent a major improvement in the distribution system by assuring the good implementation of what we usually call the combination of the "three benefits," an outstanding feature of which is emphasis on the direct benefit of the workers. That improvement will have a great significance with regard to stimulating production. The "three benefits" are a unified whole, but each "benefit" has a certain significance. Therefore, only by correctly determining each benefit can we assure the unity of the "three benefits." The effectiveness and talent of the manager lies in uncovering the contradictions in the present distribution structure and adjusting them to create unity among the "three benefits".

At present, agricultural production plays a key role in the national economy, so the relationship with the peasants is an objective most worthy of the state's concern. Among the newly promulgated policies, the matter of improving the relationship with the peasants is manifested most clearly.

In addition to promoting production, the newly promulgated policies are intended to improve market management. The objectives of that improvement are to confirm the state's right to master the market, lead the exchange process onto an organized path, and expand the socialist market.

In order to attain those objectives, it is necessary first of all to expand the activities of state and collective commerce. That is the basis on which to assure the concentration of goods in the hands of the state and the basis on which to assure the implementation of a rational distribution system. At the same time, only by intensifying the activities of the socialist commercial system can we struggle to restrict the "free market" and eliminate speculation, hoarding, and blackmarketing.

The operational formula of socialist commerce is to endeavor strongly to control retail selling, services, and the selling of goods at both supply and negotiated prices. For a long time now we have only concentrated on retail buying and selling at supply prices, so the function of the commercial sector has in actuality been so restricted that it now amounts to not more than a goods-supplying organs. That has

enabled the "free" market to develop strongly and to spread over into the organized market. In addition to controlling the supply of goods by combining buying and selling, socialist commerce must take the initiative in also dealing in products produced in excess of the plan by the state enterprises and collectives, and products produced in the sphere of the secondary family economy and bought and sold in accordance with the formula of buying at negotiated prices to sell at guaranteed commercial prices. Commercial activities must be aimed at the objective of concentrating to the highest degree the goods produced by all economic components of society. Only thereby can the market be managed and stabilized. The new policies also clearly determine the tasks and formulas for expanding commercial activities, including commerce in goods at both supply prices and guaranteed commercial prices. The state has created the necessary conditions to implement that commercial formula.

The commercial system according to the newly promulgated policies, include socialist commerce, collective commerce, and retail agents for the sale of certain consumer goods. Collective commerce includes the trading cooperatives in the localities and districts and the collective services. In order to manage the retail selling of consumer goods, in addition to the state and collective bases, arrangements are made for private individuals to serve as agents and private merchants are used to assist socialist commerce by purchasing certain products in miscellaneous production areas in which socialist commerce cannot yet organize purchasing.

At the same time, commerce is responsible for expanding such services as tailoring, catering, etc. In that regard, we have many conditions for good operation, but in actuality state commercial activities are still too weak so private individuals monopolize prices to an excessive degree and therefore harm the living conditions of the workers.

In order to create conditions for commercial activities to attain high economic effectiveness, the state readjusts some irrational goods and services prices and clearly confirms the system of commerce in accordance with the two price systems: supply prices and guaranteed commercial prices, as stated above. Those adjustments are intended to overcome the situation of excessive deficits and lessen damage to the state budget, while also serving to encourage the economic organizations to improve the commercial activity formula and do a good job of serving consumers.

With regard to private individuals, the state stipulates a system of goods prices management in order to prevent speculators from disturbing the market. In addition to registering to engage in commerce, private individuals must post price lists.

In order to tightly manage the market, the new policies stipulate that speculation in and hoarding of goods will be opposed; private individuals are not authorized to deal in products managed by the state; it is forbidden to raise prices in order to compete with the state in purchasing goods or to sell goods at prices higher than the listed prices; it is forbidden to deal in or counterfeit ration stamps and coupons or to produce ersatz goods; and that it is forbidden to violate customs statutes, statutes unifying commercial management, and statutes regarding industrial and commercial taxes and commercial registration.

The new policies also clearly stipulate material incentive measures regarding people who have merit in market management and in opposing speculation and blackmarketeering.

In addition to the economic measures, the new policies also stipulate such urgent administrative measures as tax collections, commercial registration, and the organization of market control and management.

Assuring, and gradually improving, the living conditions of the workers, civil servants, and laboring people is one of the most important problems of the economy in general and is an important objective which is clearly manifested in all the above-mentioned policies.

Of all the present economic measures, the most basic and decisive are the development of production and the stabilization of living conditions. Since there are few conditions for developing production, the improvement of living conditions can only be accomplished to a certain degree. That objective reality must be realized if we are to have a correct attitude. The recently promulgated policies clearly determine the consumer goods which the state will make all-out efforts to provide. Such products will be supplied in fixed quantities and at supply prices.

Such products are the most essential for life and include grain, vegetables, salt, dipping sauce, cooking fuel, meat and fish, eggs, sugar, MSG, cloth, and soap. Furthermore, it is also possible to supply certain other essential goods, such as tea, plastic cloth, electric fans, bicycles and parts, mats, writing paper, mild for young children and ill people, and household goods in accordance with appropriate formulas, to assure that they reach the people who need them.

Also because of limited production conditions we must not only limit the supplied goods but also supply them step-by step, i.e. priority must be given to the armed forces and the areas experiencing the most difficulties. Improving the living conditions of the people, especially those operating in the state economic apparatus and organizations or who have economic relations with the state, is always the ultimate objective of state economic activities. But that is dependent on the actual objective conditions and not on subjective desires. For that reason there must be appropriate, step-by-step distribution formulas.

The system of supply according to fixed quantities and supply prices is compulsory because production conditions are still limited and that mode is also the most appropriate, for it has been tried out in real life.

In order to assure the implementation of the new policies, the state stipulates the specific responsibility of each management sector, such as grain, foodstuffs, home trade, marine products, communications and transportation, etc., and clearly stated the necessity of separating the consumer goods for cadres, workers, and officials, people who have direct economic relations with the state from the fund of goods to exchange with the peasants.

In addition to assuring the supply system the new policies determine the responsibilities of a number of sectors relevant to assuring and improving living conditions, which must expand their commercial dealings in products produced beyond the plan or products of the secondary economic sphere, in order to further improve living conditions.

In addition to the above measures, the state has stipulated a system of temporary salary allowances for cadres, workers, and civil servants, and an increase in

hardship allowances for people who experience unexpected difficulties. That is also a necessary measure for contributing to overcoming the influence of the regulation of commodity prices. At the stipulated level, the state treasury must make a rather large expenditure, and it cannot be any larger.

Furthermore, in order to effectively contribute to improving living conditions, the state has adopted the policy of extensively applying the systems of paying salaries by the job and according to output, encouraging the enterprises to fully utilize the capabilities of their labor and equipment to develop production in excess of the materials plan assigned by the state, encouraging the cadres, workers, and civil servants to work overtime, and encouraging the scientific research organizations to cooperate with the production bases and economic organizations in order to attain the objective of combining science with production while increasing the incomes of the cadres and personnel. As stated above, the basic way to improve living standards is to develop production. It would truly be a mistake to only think about raising salaries, replace the present system of supplying fixed quantities at guidance prices by the formula of distribution according to value, or want to increase monetary incomes without increasing production, which is formalistic and senseless. The above-mentioned specific stipulations regarding the improvement of living conditions have a very real significance because they are tied in with the promotion of production. There are still many latent capabilities for developing production, so the results of the application of those measures will be very great. In actuality, in many enterprises, due to the application of the system of paying salaries according to output and paying salaries the incomes of cadres and personnel have risen considerably. In some places they have risen 50 to 70 percent or have doubled, and in the Con Dao and Quang Nam-Da Nang fishing enterprises, the Pho Yen ball bearing enterprise in Bac Thai, etc., incomes have risen even more.

With regard to balancing the state budget and managing money, the fulfillment of the tasks of building the material-technical bases of socialism and continuing to strengthen national defense capabilities require outstanding efforts with regard to national finance. But the stabilization and development of national finance must be based on developing production and increasing the economic effectiveness of investment capital. At present, we are experiencing many financial difficulties. Therefore, the state has clearly confirmed the necessity of endeavoring to balance the budget and economize on expenditures. It is necessary to fully exploit all existing sources of revenue. At present, that is not being done, which results in a considerable loss of revenue. We must strictly implement the system of collecting agricultural, industrial, and commercial taxes, and resolutely collect credit debts which are due or past due. In the sphere of private industry and commerce, the implementation of the commercial registration and taxcollection policies has doubled revenue for the budget. If agricultural taxes were collected in full, the state would receive more than 1 million tons of rice and would not have to spend money to buy it.

With regard to increasing revenue, the state has also paid much attention to economizing. Those two tasks are closely related. In order to economize, first of all, in correct accordance with the term it is necessary to reduce expenditures, the central thrust of which is reducing administrative expenditures. Such expenditures do not directly create wealth, so we must resolutely reduce them. Our administrative apparatus is larger than it needs to be, which both results in large budgetary expenditures and exerts a negative influence on production.

Furthermore, it is necessary to increase the effectiveness of investment capital. That is a measure with the most positive significance. If it is to be attained it is necessary to concentrate capital so that the new construction projects can rapidly be brought into production. At the same time, priority in the use of capital must go to the objects of production and the production areas capable of most rapidly developing effectiveness. Under our country's actual conditions -- we are still poor in investment capital and we must import most of the principal technical materials -- that matter should be fully understood but, on the contrary, little attention has been paid to it, so economic effectiveness has steadily declined. That is also an important reason for the increase in budgetary expenditures.

In the financial sphere, the state also has the policy of strengthening money management. In order to carry out that task, the most basic direction is that the state bank must improve and expand its sphere of activities in order to improve the quality of its work, do a better job of managing money, mobilize idle money among the people, and do better job of serving the requirements of production and commerce. The newly promulgated policies also clearly state the responsibilities of the bank in commercial activities. For example, if it harms the economic activities of a depositor, the bank is materially responsible. The most important requirement is that the bank must improve its work so that it corresponds to the function of an economic-commercial organization.

In addition to improving and expanding the activities of the bank, the new policies also stipulate the responsibilities of private businessmen engaged in industry or commerce on a rather large scale (according to the commercial income levels stipulated by the General Director of state bank), who must open an account with the bank and deposit in it unspent funds, property depletion funds, accumulated funds, etc., in addition to the funds deposited to cover the ordinary commercial activities. The policies clearly confirm the depositor's right of ownership of deposited money -- such rights as the right to earn profits and borrow business capital. The newly promulgated policies clearly state the responsibilities and rights of the two sides: depositors and the bank. With the new stipulations, it is certain that money management will be tighter.

Although the state's new policies regarding distribution and circulation have only just been promulgated and have only just begun to be implemented, they have clearly manifested their positive effect. The clearest results have been that the quantity of agricultural products purchased by the state has doubled in comparison to the past, budget management has progressed along more positive lines, etc. The results that have been attained regarding distribution and circulation are certain to exert a positive influence and stimulate the development of production. That will lead to many positive effects on the national economy as a whole. However, those policies are interrelated and form a unified body, so their implementation must be uniform and harmonious.

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221: 4-217

AGRICULTURE

PREMIER ISSUES DECREE ON SALT PRODUCTION

BK151200 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 15 Feb 81

[Text] Demands for salt for use in consumption, industry and for export have increased, while our salt production has decreased in recent years.

To accelerate salt production in order to meet mounting demands and in order to satisfactorily manage the collection, purchase and distribution of salt to avoid ill effects in the economic, political and social domains, the SRV premier on 7 February issued Directive No 31/TTG on salt production, trade and management.

The directive says:

The ministries of food industry, home trade, communications and transportation, and the people's committees of salt producing provinces are requested to reorganize the following specific tasks:

1. Accelerate salt production. They are to ensure the quantitative aspects of production while improving the qualitative requirements for salt, taking special care to make certain that the salt is crystal clean.

Coastal provinces and districts with conditions favorable for the production of salt must develop and organize their production capacities so as to become self-sufficient in salt. Provinces which produce large quantities of salt must ensure that their plan norms for the delivery salt to the state are fulfilled. To ensure the purity of salt, the State Science and Technology Commission and the ministries of public health and food industry must undertake studies to establish national standards for salt purity and then submit the results to the government for promulgation.

2. Carry out intensive measures to expand salt-producing areas.

The Ministry of Food Industry must control all salt-producing areas and supervise localities in planning areas for salt production. This involves the application of intensive production methods, improving production techniques and expanding productive areas. The State Planning Commission and the Ministry of Food Industry must accurately determine the amount of capital to be invested in the salt sector. In doing so they must pay special attention to indepth investments and must clearly fix production plan norms for each locality.

In areas where production is in progress, intensive measures must be applied in order to upgrade the effectiveness of various tasks related to increased production. These include such areas as water conservation, supplying salt water and draining fresh water, improving cushions on salt fields and increasing the availability of the essential equipment and tools used in production. This is especially important for the coming producing season.

In order to exploit available production areas intensively and satisfactorily, arrangements must be made for the 1981 investment and expansion plan and during preparations for the 1982 plan and subsequent years to ensure the fulfillment of the 5-year plan norms. Plans to expand salt-producing areas in southern Vietnam must be balanced with consumption limits and the availability of transportation to prevent unnecessary accumulations of salt.

3. Satisfactorily solve problems relating to the living conditions of salt producers and strengthen managerial organizations in order to implement the state monopoly of the salt trade.

In order to resolve the problems involved in ameliorating the living condition of salt producers, it is necessary first of all to arrange employment for workers and help the salt producers increase labor productivity and, consequently, their income. At the same time it is necessary to organize secondary jobs so as to make full use of the workforce. Possibilities here include combining salt production with fishery or agricultural production and not separating them in a formalistic manner. Depending on availability, localities must allocate some percentage of their land to salt producers for vegetable cultivation or livestock breeding.

To stabilize the life of salt producers so that they can concentrate on their line of production, all localities must ensure satisfactory implementation of the policies already promulgated for the salt producers. This includes supplying them with adequate grain, food and fabrics in accordance with set quotas and supplying them with coal or fuel wherever necessary--although in the long term plans must be devised to encourage them to plant trees for firewood.

Concerning organization and management, it is urgently necessary to consolidate and develop state-run salt production enterprises to ensure that they will operate in a profitable manner and to guide them in the satisfactory implementation of Decrees No 25-CP and No 26-CP dated 26 January 1981 issued by the Council of Ministers.

Units engaged in the production or distribution and circulation of salt must actually carry out profit-and-loss accounting, expand the practice of contracting for product quotas and the payment of bonuses based on accrued output. They must also closely combine the three types of interests so as to increase labor productivity and output and lower production costs.

At present, the production of salt is being carried out primarily by cooperatives and production collectives and secondarily by individual producers. Therefore, we must pay attention to carrying out the socialist transformation and consolidating socialist production relations in the salt-producing sector.

Concerning the collection, purchase and distribution of salt, the state must secure a monopoly of the salt trade and stamp out speculative and smuggling activities. To step up collection and purchase work it is necessary to satisfactorily resolve problems arising from irrational policies concerning prices, credits and taxation.

The directive also points out the tasks to be carried out by the various ministries and localities in order to accelerate the production and management of salt.

Concerning the division of labor in managing the salt sector, for the time being, the Ministry of Food Industry is still responsible for production while the Ministry of Home Trade and the trade sectors are responsible for collection and purchase activities. The Ministry of Home Trade is also responsible for the domestic distribution and circulation of salt, including both wholesale and retail activities. The Ministry of Foreign Trade is responsible for exporting salt. The people's committees of the various provinces are responsible for guiding production and managing the distribution of salt locally.

CSO: 4209

AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

NORTHERN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION—According to the General Statistics Department, after the Tet holidays, peasants of the agricultural cooperatives in the north have enthusiastically resumed production work in the fields; and in 5 days--from 5 to 10 February--they planted 51,000 hectares of spring rice, bringing the total area planted with 5th-month spring rice since the beginning of the season to 608,000 hectares or 56.6 percent of the plan. This is 20,000 hectares more than the area planted in the same period last year. Provinces and cities making good progress in planting the 5th-month spring rice are Binh Tri Thien, 90.6 percent; Haiphong, 92 percent; Nghe Tinh, 80 percent; and Ha Nam Ninh, 67.2 percent. Provinces with large spring rice areas such as Hai Hung, Thai Binh and Ha Son Binh, though having just begun transplanting work, have fulfilled from 27 to 37 percent of their respective plans. These provinces are guiding the cooperatives to accelerate sowing and transplanting work in an effort to basically finish planting the spring rice within the best seasonal period. [Text] [BK180825 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 17 Feb 81]

CSO: 4209

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

STEEL CORPORATION BEGINS PRODUCTION OF ROLLERS

Hanoi TAP CHI HOAT DONG KHOA HOC in Vietnamese No 8 Aug 80 pp 25 and 26

[Article by Thai Doan De, deputy chief of the Technical Department, the Thai Nguyen Iron and Steel Corporation: "Researching the Production of Rollers at the Thai Nguyen Iron and Steel Corporation"]

[Text] 1. The need for rollers for the corporation's rolled steel production.

The Thai Nguyen Iron and Steel Corporation has two steel rolling mills: the Gia Sang Steel Rolling Mill and Steel Rolling Mill 650. The Gia Sang Steel Rolling Mill uses various types of iron rollers that have a diameter of 280 to 402 millimeters and steel rollers made of Ni, Cr and Mo alloys that have a diameter of 530 millimeters to roll bar steel. The annual quantity supplied for the production of rolled steel of roller quality by the GDR is 200 tons. Steel Rolling Mill 650 uses various types of iron rollers and steel rollers that have a diameter of 680 to 840 millimeters. The quantity needed each year at this mill for the production of rolled steel of high roller quality, including bar rollers manufactured from Ni, Cr and Mo steel alloys, is 650 tons. If we had the conditions needed to fully utilize the capacity of existing rolled steel production equipment, we would need 850 tons of rollers per year. However, in order to produce this quantity of rollers, a minimum of 1,200 tons of pig iron rollers would be needed each year.

2. The situation and position of the corporation concerning steel rollers.

The Gia Sang Steel Rolling Mill was constructed with the help of the GDR and originally equipped with enough rollers for production over a certain period of time; therefore, we must provide enough rollers to maintain production on a permanent basis. Steel Rolling Mill 650 was completely equipped by China, which also supplied the raw materials and important parts needed for production, including various types of rollers. When China withdrew its specialists and cut its aid to us, the rolling mill 650 project was incomplete and the equipment and spare parts at it at that time, including the various types of rollers, were insufficient to produce any type of rolled steel product (with the exception of rollers to produce blanks).

The position of the corporation has been that we must look for every possible way to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of rollers because this self-sufficiency will result in the saving of a large amount of foreign currency; in view of the

corporation's situation, in particular, and our country's situation, in general, this self-sufficiency will allow us to take the initiative in production and provide the conditions for increasing the various of steel rollers with a view toward meeting the production needs of the various economic sectors in the most positive manner possible. The party committee, board of directors and Trade Union of the corporation have been concentrating their efforts on guiding and organizing forces and creating every possible condition for researching and producing rollers. The corporation has set forth specific principles to be followed in this research and production in order to achieve self-sufficiency; they are:

--The raw materials needed for production must primarily be domestic raw materials as this is the only way we can take the initiative in research and future large-scale production and, at the same time, not be dependent upon the importation of scarce raw materials.

--On the basis of improving and rationalizing their organization, every effort must be made to fully utilize the equipment and production installations that the corporation has now or can acquire. During the initial period, requirements should not be too high so that the problem can be resolved in a rapid and timely fashion.

--Research and testing must be simultaneously carried out under the present production conditions of the corporation; on this basis, we must verify and evaluate results and the quality of rollers and lay the basis for continuous improvements, for the improvement of the quality of the various stages of roller production.

Due to these characteristics of the subject in light of the corporation's circumstances, research has had to be carried out in an urgent manner, that is, has had to bypass the stage of small-scale experiments and, at the same time, achieve very good results, results that could immediately be introduced in production. Therefore, in order to meet the requirements presented above, the corporation has taken the following measures.

--The target to be achieved must be reasonable in view of our technical conditions, equipment, raw materials and so forth;

--Formulate an efficient technical plan and state which results will be acceptable;

--Use and retool a number of pieces of equipment in order to provide satisfactory service during the initial stage of research and production;

--Resolve the problem of fire resistant materials in order to support refining and casting operations;

--The various types of rollers are of large dimensions and heavy (in crude form, the largest weighs 16 tons), consequently, the corporation must resolve the problem of machining equipment and techniques for assembling these various types of rollers.

--The corporation must organize, guide, carry out and coordinate the research into the production of steel rollers while continuing its management work and production

in accordance with its state plan. This is complicated even more by the fact that many units are participating in this effort.

3. The results that have been achieved so far.

a. Quantity.

At the Gia Sang Steel Rolling Mill, the corporation has achieved complete self-sufficiency in the various types of iron rollers and steel rollers measuring from 280 to 530 millimeters in diameter. At Rolling Mill 650, we have achieved self-sufficiency in the various types of steel horizontal rollers that have a diameter from 680 to 840 millimeters. The test production of bar steel rollers has not been carried out yet but we are capable of carrying it out.

b. Quality.

--The iron rollers that have a diameter of 680 millimeters have a roller surface hardness of 385-420 HB.

--The steel rollers that have a diameter of 840 millimeters have a hardness at the tuyeres ranging from 215 HB to 297 HB;

--The steel rollers that have a diameter of 530 millimeters have a hardness at the tuyeres of 237 HB to 299 HB after the first lathe operation.

c. Use in production.

--The small, iron rollers for the Gia Sang Steel Rolling Mill have an average life-span that approximates that of the rollers from the GDR.

--The large rollers manufactured from steel, a typical example of which is roller number 12, which has a diameter of 840 millimeters, have been used to produce more than 10,000 tons of rolled steel.

--The large rollers manufactured from iron that have a diameter of 680 millimeters of more and have been in use at rolling shops number 2 and number 3 of Steel Rolling Mill 650 have met the basic requirements regarding the quality of steel products but the quality of the rollers themselves has not been stable.

d. Economic returns.

The production of steel rollers has:

--Helped the corporation to maintain the production of rolled steel at its two mills and resolved the basic, long-range problem of production;

--Reduced the amount of foreign currency spent by the state;

--Enabled us to take the initiative in production and increase the variety of rolled steel products;

--Enabled the use of primarily domestic raw materials, consequently, we have been able to take the initiative in the production of rollers.

4. Lessons and experiences.

The reasons for the results that have been achieved are also lessons and experiences in the successful research and production of rollers by the corporation and partially in the various scientific-technical activities and the movement to make innovations, make technological improvements and rationalize production in the past several years; they are:

a. The correct leadership provided by the party committee, the corporation's board of directors and the leadership committee, which were highly determined and, at the same time, turned their determination into determination on the part of the technical cadres and manual workers of the corporation; in the most difficult jobs, managers personally provided guidance while highly tapping the creativity of the masses.

b. In view of the fact that the corporation is encountering difficulties in production and its production is imbalanced in many areas, the board of directors and the managers on the various levels selected the technical areas of key, decisive importance in immediate and long-range production, concentrated their efforts on research and experimentation in these areas and assembled specialized technical cadres and manual workers to design and manufacture rollers.

c. The concern of the corporation for the material and spiritual lives of the cadres and manual workers who participated in research and production: the corporation has promptly praised achievements, put the consideration of initiatives for awards on a regular basis and promptly promoted personnel, thereby motivating everyone as positively as possible to participate with a high degree of zeal. As a result, the entire corps displayed a high spirit of socialist cooperation, a high spirit of responsibility and high creativity under all circumstances.

5. The direction of future research.

In the immediate future, we must:

--Perfect the equipment, material bases and other conditions needed for the stable production of rollers;

--improve technology, designs and machining in order to improve and achieve stable roller quality;

--Stabilize the sources of raw materials, especially raw materials for fire resistant bricks and catalysts.

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

SPECIALISTS' VILLAGE AT HOA BINH POWER PROJECT DESCRIBED

Hanoi XAY DUNG in Vietnamese No 12, Dec 80 p 13

[Article by Engineer Nguyen Ngoc Tu, the Institute of Housing and Public Project Design: "The Planning and Construction of the Specialists' Village at the Hoa Binh Hydroelectric Power Plant on the Da River"]

[Excerpt] The specialists' village at the Hoa Binh Hydroelectric Power Plant on the Da River was researched and designed by Soviet specialists in coordination with cadres of the Institute of Housing and Public Project Design of the Ministry of Building on the basis of an agreement signed by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The specialists' village was designed to support the approximately 2,000 specialists participating in the construction of the Hoa Binh Hydroelectric Power Plant on the Da River. The construction site is located in the town of Hoa Binh on a hill, measures roughly 50 hectares and is about 3 kilometers from the power generating center. The planning of the specialists' village has been closely linked to the natural terrain and enables easy travel between living quarters and the work place by means of a network of internal roads linked to the main road that leads to the hydroelectric power plant.

The specialists' village makes rather systematic and efficient use of land and has required little leveling of construction sites, consequently, the system of technical projects, such as electricity, water, culverts, sewers, roads and so forth has been less costly and this has enabled us to invest less capital in construction. The various projects, which are arranged to receive much of the cool summer breezes and face the main road, have a diverse layout consisting of many different types of projects with different shapes and heights, thereby creating harmony between architectural projects and the terrain and natural environment and increasing the beauty of the natural surroundings.

The specialists' village consists of a housing area and a public service area. The housing area has five main housing complexes (which include one reserve complex) and a complex of cottages for leadership cadres. The housing complexes, which surround the public complex, lie within the system of parks and internal roads and provide for quiet living, convenient travel and a sanitary environment.

The public complex consists of three clusters of buildings arranged on the basis of their functions:

--The cluster of public buildings, which adjoins the housing complexes, consists of the commerce center, the joint building (the school, club, restaurant and child care center), the medical aid station...

--The cluster of recreational buildings, which is located near the lake and has beautiful scenery, consists of a summer movie theater, a dancehall, a swimming pool...

--The cluster of service buildings, which cannot be seen from within the village, consists of cold storage facilities, a laundry, a boiler plant, water reservoir, parking lot for vehicles...

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HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

CONSTRUCTION UNITS PRESS TO COMPLETE PLAN

Hanoi XAY DUNG in Vietnamese No 12, Dec 80 pp 2-3 and 10

[Article by Bui Van Cac, Vice Minister of Building: "Endeavoring To Complete the 1980 Construction and Assembly Task and Making Good Preparations for Construction and Assembly Work in the 1st Quarter of 1981"]

[Text] Our entire sector has entered the final days and months of the 1980 plan. The construction and assembly units of the ministry and the various localities are making every effort to complete as much as possible of the plan tasks assigned by the upper level.

Reviewing the past 10 months and more, we see that very many difficulties have been encountered in every area; in particular, there has been a shortage of electricity for construction and the supply of materials to projects has not been well coordinated; however, the construction and assembly units, on both the central and the local levels, took positive steps to implement their 1980 plans in accordance with the guidelines of the ministry: concentrating on completing one project at a time and putting one project after another into production or use. In the process of carrying out their construction and assembly tasks, many units have taken the initiative and overcome their difficulties and strengthened the various areas of management, consequently, they have maintained their construction rate and are able to implement the plan assigned them well.

To date, excluding medium-scale and small-scale projects, the entire sector has completed, consigned and put into production or use a number of projects ahead of schedule, among which the important projects deserving of mention are: the Hoa Sen Earth Satellite Signal Station, XZ-72, the wireless equipment major repair facility, the exports cold storage facility, the Dong Anh Paving Brick Factory, the Huong Canh Livestock Feed Enterprise and so forth. The key projects which our sector has the responsibility of building have also been accelerated. Some projects were completed on schedule, such as the Hoa Sen Satellite Signal Ground Station. Several other projects, such as the Pha Lai Power Plant, the Hoang Thach Cement Plant, the Bim Son Cement Plant, the Vinh Phu Paper Mill, the Hoa Binh Hydroelectric Power Plant, the Thang Loi Textile Mill, the Nha Trang Fiber Mill and so forth, are receiving centralized guidance in an effort to achieve the rate of construction planned for 1980. Improvements have been made in the quality of construction and assembly work at many projects. The Vinh Phu Paper Mill project, the Hanoi Children's Hospital

project, the Hoang Thach Cement Plant project, the Gia Lam Locomotive Factory project, the diplomatic delegations project, the Noi Bai Airport project, project 66A and so forth are projects at which the quality of both technical work and artistic work is high. Labor productivity and the income of manual workers have increased in some units. Two units, Building Corporation Number 1 and the Viet Tri Building Corporation, have made substantial improvement with regard to guiding the construction of one project at a time and completing and putting into use one project after another. Many new factors and new models have emerged within the productive labor movement, such as the expansion of the payment of piecework wages; organizing production lines to work two or three shifts per day; the coordination, cooperation and mutual support among units at key projects; the development of potentials both in and outside the sector and potentials of both the central and local levels; the intensification of the effort to raise additional food in order to improve the standard of living; the many intense emulation campaigns between our cadres and workers and the specialists, especially the Soviet specialists.

All of these facts, which reflect the very praiseworthy efforts made by virtually all construction and assembly units within the sector, especially the units constructing and assembling key projects, have one point in common: the very high determination on the part of the ministry to assemble manpower, supplies and equipment and provide guidance for the key projects of the national economy. However, there are still some units that have not maintained their rate of construction; they have not maintained continuous construction after starting projects; their forces are decentralized, they lack centralized guidance and there is no comprehensive plan for finishing work; they have not made good preparations for production and product contracts, have not made good use of the various economic levers; the quality of their projects is not good and these projects must be repaired time and time again. These are a number of weaknesses that must be rapidly corrected. The realities of construction and assembly work since the start of 1980 show us:

--At places where good preparations are made for production and product contracts, labor productivity is high, the income of manual workers has increased, they produce with enthusiasm and the rate of construction is accelerated. The experiences of the Federation of Machine Installation Enterprises, the Federation of Mechanized Construction Enterprises and Building Corporation Number 1, which are units that perform this work well, clearly show this.

--In view of the shortage of electricity, units that have promptly shifted their production to manual production have been able to maintain continuous production.

--The development of the potential for transportation by water routes in the various localities and at installations is of special importance. As a result of the redeployment of transport forces by some corporations, the means of water transport mobilized to support the Pha Lai power project increased to 5,000-6,000 tons. This is one of the lessons in developing the potentials of the localities and units within the sector to support key projects.

The portion of the construction and assembly task to be completed by the end of 1980 is still very large, especially the implementation of the norm on projects

completed and consigned and the norm on the construction rate of key projects. On the other hand, we must also make good preparations for construction and assembly work in the 1st quarter of 1981, especially with regard to the key projects of the national economy because what we achieve in future years is dependent upon the work we perform in 1981.

In order to successfully carry out the task mentioned above, the construction and assembly units must immediately make extraordinary efforts to successfully complete the projects and project items recorded in the 1980 consignment plan; achieve the construction rate targets for such key projects as the Bin Son Cement Plant, the Hoang Thach Cement Plant, the Vinh Phu Paper Mill, the Pha Lai Power Plant and the Hoa Binh Hydroelectric Power Plant; assemble the forces and equipment needed to accelerate the Nha Trang Fiber Mill project, the Hanoi Fiber Mill project, the Dac Lac Lumber Mill project and the Lam Thao Superphosphate Plant project; continue to prepare for the start of construction on several new projects; formulate and assign 1st quarter 1981 plans; and prepare all of the materials needed for construction and assembly work in January 1981.

Several important measures that must be taken during this period of time are:

--Formulating a detailed schedule and measures for finishing work and, on this basis, computing the needs for manpower, supplies, vehicles, machines and wages while taking determined steps to provide ample materials and equipment for and assigning complete contracts for the finishing work at each project or each project item to units. As regards the rate of construction of projects, especially key projects, these measures must also be taken in a manner consistent with the characteristics of each project.

--Deploying production forces and giving priority in the supply of materials and equipment to achieving the targets for the completion of consigned projects and project items and achieving the planned rate of construction of key projects. The remaining forces must be deployed in a manner consistent with capabilities at other projects, with every effort being made to avoid decentralizing forces.

--Organizing two or three regular work shifts per day and organizing production lines at completed and consigned projects and key projects; providing the production factors, command factors and life support factors needed to put the working of two or three shifts per day on a regular basis.

--Trying to provide additional competent cadres for supply and transport work; providing close guidance of everything from purchasing contracts to the transportation, storage and distribution of supplies; taking specific steps to prevent all theft and waste of supplies; and teaching in conjunction with training and caring for the corps of persons who perform supply and transport work.

--Intensifying the educational effort and the inspection of the implementation of quality control regulations in each stage of production in order to combat sloppy, careless work; attaching importance to labor safety.

--Accelerating the application of technical advances and making good preparations for the 1981 technical advances plan.

--Improving the making of payments and the settlement of accounts and inspecting the formulation of projected unit prices in order to insure ample capital for operations.

--Caring for the standard of living of cadres and workers; the bases for raising the standard of living of manual workers and cadres are expanding the payment of piecework wages and raising the income of workers. On the basis of increased income, the eating standard of cadres and manual workers must be raised. Inspections must be conducted to insure that meal ration standards are being met and between shift meals must be organized well.

--Taking positive steps to increase food production, strongly developing crop and livestock production and organizing studies, relaxation and entertainment with a view toward improving the material and cultural lives of manual workers and cadres.

--Summarizing the productive labor emulation movement and the emulation movement to achieve high productivity; selecting progressive, outstanding persons and collectives and completing the procedures for suggesting that the ministry praise and commend them at the sector-wide review conference at the end of the year.

Successfully carrying out the construction and assembly task for 1980, the final year of the second 5-year plan, and making good preparations for the 1981 construction and assembly plan, beginning with the 1st quarter of 1981, in order to take the initiative in carrying out the building task of the third 5-year plan are of very important significance. With the valuable experiences that have been gained in the recent past, especially the experiences of the first months of this year, the construction and assembly units will surely undergo many new changes, make new progress and make outstanding contributions to the successful completion of the state plan assigned to our sector by the party and government.

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HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

BRIEFS

PHA LAI POWER PLANT--Five months after the start of construction, the Pha Lai Power Plant construction site has poured 3,000 cubic meters of concrete foundation, finished pouring the foundations of the auxiliary boiler, the smokestack, the outdoor electric power distribution station and the auxiliary complex and constructed the frame of the main plant. At the construction site, the worksite has completed the construction of the acetylene production plant, the 110 kilovolt transformer station and machine shop 15 and is urgently building the various warehouses, industrial yards and pipelines. The corporation has taken various steps to provide incentive for production and the efficient organization of construction, such as contracts for complete jobs, increased productivity bonuses and more money for between shift meals. In October 1980, the worksite completed the construction required by its plan for the year. The Federation of Machine Installation Enterprises undertook the design and has completed the construction of the network of construction electricity for the Pha Lai thermoelectric power project and is assembling several large cranes to support the placement and installation of boiler equipment. [Excerpt] [Hanoi XAY DUNG in Vietnamese No 12, Dec 80 p 33] 7809

DA RIVER POWER PLANT--The Da River Hydroelectric Power Plant Construction General Corporation has put into use 113,600 square meters of housing, 21 kilometers of steel reinforced concrete highway paved with asphalt, 31.4 kilometers of power lines, 6 transformer stations, 2 diesel powered generating stations, 24 kilometers of water drainage pipe and a number of support projects, such as work places, a hospital, a general merchandise store, a food store, a bookstore and a posts-telegraph station. [Excerpt] [Hanoi XAY DUNG in Vietnamese No 12, Dec 80 p 33] 7809

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